

Document No. NO CHANGE in Class. ☐☐ DECLASSIFIEDClass. CHANGED TO: TS S (C)

DDA Memo, 4 Apr 77

Auth: DDA REG. 77/1763

Date: 3/10/78

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP**INTELLIGENCE REPORT**

50X1-HUM

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COUNTRY Albania

SUBJECT Activities of Russian Missions
in Albania

DIST. 29 October 1946

PAGES 2

SUPPLEMENT

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RUSSIAN POLITICAL MISSION:

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1. The Political Mission is responsible for providing the Albanian Government with political and propaganda advisers. It works principally with the Minister of Interior, Koci Xoxe, described as "the strong man of Enver Hoxha's Cabinet and more pro-Russian than his Russian instructors", and with Professor Sejfulla Maleshova, who is responsible for propaganda matters.
2. The Political Mission is also responsible for coordinating and directing the relations of the State with the three churches of Albania - the Orthodox, the Moslem, and the Roman Catholic. little regard is paid to the susceptibilities of the Roman Catholic Church (fourteen of whose priests have been shot and many more of whom have been arrested), that the Orthodox Church is being used as a possible bridge between Slavs and Albanians, and that propaganda is spread among the Moslems on the freedom allowed in the USSR to all Islamic cults.
3. A further responsibility of the Political Mission is the educational policy of the country, and it is generally admitted, even by non-Communists, that progress is being made in the raising of educational standards

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RUSSIAN TECHNICAL MISSION:

4. The Technical Mission has placed Russian experts in every branch of the Ministry of National Economy and the Ministry of Public Works. They are said to be taking particular interest in the

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copper of the Puka area, the chrome in the mountains west of Lake Ohrid, and in the oil of the Devolli region.

RUSSIAN MILITARY MISSION:

- [REDACTED] 50X1-HUM
5. The Military Mission is engaged in supervising the reorganization of the Albanian Army and the fortification of the coast from Durazzo to Saranda.

6. [REDACTED] the strength of the remodelled army is to be about 30,000 men. 50X1-HUM

In recruiting, priority is given to young men with experience in resistance groups.

7. The Military Mission is further engaged in the standardizing of equipment. [REDACTED] the Albanian Army holds considerable stocks of weapons for which no ammunition is available, and that Russian weapons have not yet been introduced on any considerable scale. 50X1-HUM

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